REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the present application, of which Applicant has amended Claims 1, 6, 11, and 12. Applicant respectfully asserts that no new material is introduced by the amendments. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the present patent application in view of the remarks presented below.

Drawings

Replacement drawings correcting the informalities of the originally filed drawings are enclosed with this response.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

Claims 1-4, 6, 10, 12-14, 17, and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102 as being anticipated by the patent to L'Heureux et al. (US 6,697,942, "L'Heureux"). Applicant has reviewed the cited reference and respectfully asserts that embodiments in accordance with the present invention as recited in Claims 1-4, 6, 10, 12-14, 17, and 20 are not anticipated by L'Heureux.

The patent to L'Heureux generally describes a data formatting method for embedding diverse types of data in an email message. One type of data disclosed by L'Heureux is the data type known as x-clipmail/text. *See*, col. 9, lines 4-65 of L'Heureux. The x-clipmail/text data type identifies a segment of an email message that contains DET commands such as those listed in FIGS. 6-9 of L'Heureux. When an email message is identified with this type of data, all data contained in that segment are interpreted as commands. As an example, the syntax SET_DATE=[NUMs] can be included in the email message to set the current calendar date on the receiving device. Significantly, the commands included in the email message are fully formed commands that are distinct from standard text, which falls within the domain of the text/plain data type.

In Applicant's claimed invention, commands that are communicated via mail messages are not fully formed commands in the particular command syntax. Rather, commands are formed through an interpretation of standard text of different parts (e.g., lines) of the email

message based on the recognized reserved command word. For example, a DELETE command in the database CONTACT can be formed through an interpretation of the three lines in the body of the email message illustrated in Table 5 of Applicant's specification. As this example clearly illustrates, a command is not transmitted directly in the email message. Claim 1 recites, for example, that the command is assembled using the plurality of identifiable portions of the command in the plurality of separate parts of the email message.

For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully asserts that the teachings in L'Heureux do not anticipated Applicant's claim 1. Applicant therefore submits that claim 1 as it stands is distinct from the reference asserted by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 1. Independent claim 12 recites similar features as those recited by independent Claim 1. The rejection of this claim should also be withdrawn for the same reasons urged here with respect to claim 1. Finally, claims 2-4, 6, 10, 13, 14, 17 and 20 are also distinct by virtue of the fact that they depend from either claim 1 or claim 12. The rejection of claims 2-4, 6, 10, 13, 14, 17, and 20 is also traversed for at least the reasons noted above with respect to claim 1.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 5, 7, 11, 15 and 16 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over to the patent to L'Heureux in view of the patent to Ono (US 6,742,024). Claims 5, 7, 15 and 16 are dependent on either of claims 1 and 12 and are distinct from the asserted art because they incorporate the features of one of those independent claims. Thus, even assuming that the patent to Ono teaches all that the Examiner alleges, the rejection of claims 5, 7, 15, and 16 is traversed for at least the reasons urged above with respect to claims 1 and 12. Finally, claim 11 was rejected under the same rationale as claims 1-10. Thus, the rejection of claim 11 is also traversed for at least the reasons noted above with respect to claims 1-10.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-23 are pending in the present patent application. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Please charge any additional fees or apply any credits to our PTO deposit account number: 50-3102.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 27, 2006   By: /Reena Kuyper/
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